

**REQUEST  
for  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.*

*See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).*

Application Number	10/810,898
Filing Date	March 29, 2004
First Named Inventor	Kazuhiro OHKOUCHI et al.
Group Art Unit	1615
Examiner Name	Jyothsna A. Venkat
Attorney Docket Number	2004_0494
Confirmation No.	1097

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.*

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
  - a. ☐ Previously submitted:
    - i. ☐ Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
    - ii. ☐ Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
    - iii. ☐ Other
  - b. ☒ Enclosed:
    - i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
    - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - iv. ☒ Other - Petition for a three month extension of time
2. Miscellaneous
  - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
  - b. ☐ Other
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
  - a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.
    - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
    - iii. ☐ Other
  - b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 1,810.00 enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

CUSTOMER NO.  
**000513**

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TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO 23-0975